

Grange Thistle Football Club  
Six a Side Competition 2022  
Information Pack

## Welcome to the GTFC 6 A-Side Program

Congratulations on joining the GTFC 6 A-Side Program. Please read this document for valuable information on the Competition.

As a sanctioned competition, you must have registered as a player in the Football Australia, Online Registration System during the year. If you did not register this year, it is essential that you create an account and register now under the appropriate Six a Side product via the following link [GTFC landing page, FA Online Registration System](#)

## Aims & Objectives of the Program

The 6 A-Side program is a social program that gives young players the opportunity to play football in a fast-free flowing way and to make decisions on their own accord. We would ask parents to encourage their players and not coach excessively from the sidelines.

## What to do Next?

If you already know your team, you will need to ensure your whole team is registered as soon as possible and payments are made. Can you please contact all other members of your team and ask them to register online as soon as possible? It is important that each team member is aware of the team's name that has been selected and it is included when registering. Otherwise, they may be placed in another team by mistake.

If necessary, we may need to combine some age groups depending on the final registrations. You will be advised by email if this happens in your specific age groups. We will do our best to avoid this wherever possible. It is important that you assist us in ensuring that all members of your team are registered and paid as soon as possible.

**How to Contact Us?** For any inquiries or questions please email: [info@grangethistle.com](mailto:info@grangethistle.com). Please allow 24 to 48 hours for a response from us.

**What happens on the First Day?** A considerable amount of administration is necessary on the first day of the competition. Please ensure you have fill out your team sheets and handed them to the ref before the game. Please make sure you are ready to kick off on time.

**What Happens Each Week?** Each week, the team (all members) must sign in on your team sheet to confirm that they are participating on that day. This will be applicable to all teams, including junior teams. All juniors under the age of 14 will require a parent to sign on their behalf. This is due to terms and condition of insurance.

The Draw for each week will be posted online and on the Club's board in the clubhouse (including names of teams, times, and fields). The draw will be posted as soon as possible before each week's fixtures. However, due to fixture changes, it may be difficult to post fixtures too far in advance, and we request your understanding in this.

All teams must be at their allocated pitch, and ready to play at least 5 minutes before the scheduled kick off. This is due to the substantial number of fixtures scheduled each night and to maintain the playing schedule.

It is the responsibility of each team Manager to ensure that you have sufficient players each week. If you are short numbers, please contact the registration team as soon as possible (or at the latest 20 minutes prior to the game) so that we can attempt to locate replacement players (if possible).

**What happens if I need to forfeit?** If for some reason your team cannot make a game, we need to be advised as soon as possible to ensure that all teams and persons involved can be notified. You should contact us by email [admin@GTFCsoccer.com.au](mailto:admin@GTFCsoccer.com.au) at least 24 hours prior to your scheduled game time. We ask you to be considerate to other teams as no one enjoys arriving to the field and finding out that their game has been cancelled as the other team has not shown up.

**Scores and Updates to the Table.** All scores will be updated on our website as soon as possible after the Friday games are completed. You can access the points table on the club's website [www.grangethistle.com](http://www.grangethistle.com).

### Rules and Regulations

1. Grange Thistle Football Club is a licensed club. Under the liquor licensing laws, it is illegal to bring any alcohol onto the premises. Any person found bringing alcohol to the premises will be suspended from participating in the program with no refund given on fees.
2. Under State Government Laws, smoking is prohibited from any area within a sports and recreation facility. Anyone caught smoking will be asked to leave the premises without exception
3. All spectators are expected to abide with the Football Federation National Code of Spectator Behaviour. Please view this on our website or from the following link.  
[SPECTATOR CODE OF BEHAVIOUR \(footballaustralia.com.au\)](http://www.footballaustralia.com.au)
4. All players are to acknowledge and meet the requirements under the fair play code of Conduct which can be viewed on our website.
5. All decisions made by the referee's and our official are final and must be adhered to always
6. Once the first game of the competition is played, the club will not provide any refunds to any players for any circumstances.
7. It is against the rules for any player to sign against another player's name on the registration sheet or for an unregistered player to play under a registered player's name. The registered player and or team involved in such an incident may be suspended from the competition. Our officials may ask for proof of identify as needed during the competition.
8. Referees: Most of the referees are our children and club members. Please remember that mistakes happen and once the referee has made the call that is final. Please treat them with respect.

### Wet Weather

Weather may cause the cancellation of fixtures. Please check the Club website [www.grangethistle.com](http://www.grangethistle.com) for field status. Information is located on the top right of the home page and displays if Lanham Park fields are open or closed and the time last updated. If the field status for Lanham Park is Closed then games have been cancelled.

Information will be posted on this website by 4.00 p.m. in the afternoon. Please ensure that you familiarise yourself with this page on the website to minimise inconvenience during the season. Updates will also be posted to Facebook so please make sure you are a member of the Grange Thistle Facebook page [www.facebook.com/GrangeThistle](http://www.facebook.com/GrangeThistle) Sessions cancelled due to wet weather may not be rescheduled.

Grange Thistle Football Club  
GTFC 6 a side Competition  
Rules 2022

## Rules of Competition

### Laws of the Game

These rules apply to all grades unless specifically stated otherwise.

### COMPETITION STRUCTURE

GTFC FC will arrange age restricted competitions for players as per the following.

Competitions may be mixed or gender specific as determined by GTFC FC.

Final Registration numbers will dictate Competitions to be run.

Age groups may be combined if deemed necessary. GTFC FC may allow players to play outside of their correct age group under special circumstances. GTFC FC may, at its absolute discretion, regrade a team in one higher age group.

The proposed competition age groups are:

- Open Men's
- Open Women's
- Over 35 Social Players born 1984 or earlier
- Under 18 Player born in the year 2004
- Under 16 Player born in the year 2006
- Under 15 Player born in the year 2007
- Under 14 Player born in the year 2008
- Under 13 Player born in the year 2009
- Under 12 Player born in the year 2010
- Under 11 Player Born in the year 2011
- Under 10 Player Born in the year 2012
- Under 9 Player Born in the year 2013
- Under 6/8 Player Born in the year 2014 to 2016

### COMPETITION PREMIERS

#### *Premiership*

The premiership shall be determined by the team with the highest number of points in a competition age group at the end of the season.

#### *Points*

In all competition fixtures, match points will be awarded as follows:

- WIN Three (3) Points
- DRAW One (1) Point
- LOSS Nil (0) Points
- BYE (3) Points
- NO RESULT Nil (0) Points for either team
- Forfeit by team on game day (0-5 result for goal difference purposes)

Ladder positions when points are equal

If, at the end of the fixture competition, any two or more teams are equal on points, goal difference shall be the primary method of determining the Premier / higher ranking team.

Goal difference shall be calculated by subtracting the total number of goals AGAINST from the total number of goals FOR in all fixture matches:

The teams will be ranked according to superior (positive) goal difference.

In the event of goal difference being equal the following steps are taken (in order) until a superior ranked team can be determined:

1. The team having scored the most goals FOR shall be the higher or highest placed team.
2. the head to head match result.

If teams are still equal after considering all of the above considerations, both teams will be named Premiers.

## FIXTURES

### *Scheduling*

GTFC FC will arrange the dates, times and locations of all matches. These scheduled matches will be advised weekly.

### *Duration*

The duration of matches for each age group are outlined in the GTFC 6 a Side Laws Of The Game. No added/injury time will be played during matches.

### *Application for Alterations*

Any application for an alteration to scheduled fixtures shall be submitted in writing to GTFC FC at least fifteen (15) working days prior to the scheduled fixture. Each request will be determined on its merits. Applications for alterations due to "social functions" (e.g. Weddings, christenings, confirmations or other social and religious events) will not be considered. The Club's decision in regard to the rescheduling of fixtures will be final.

### *Non-participation in a Fixture*

Any team that fails to fulfil any of its fixture or finals obligations arranged by GTFC FC, may have points deducted per offence, and may be subject to further disciplinary action.

If either team is not ready to commence the fixture within 15 minutes of the scheduled kick-off time, the match may be recorded as a 5-0 win in favour of the opposing team, and the points will be awarded to the opposing team as a forfeit. Should any team claim such a forfeit they must forward a completed Official Match Sheet, signed by the appointed referee, or an GTFC FC official. The team deemed to have forfeited may submit a report, within three (3) working days, to GTFC FC should they believe the forfeit was caused by exceptional circumstances. Where GTFC FC finds that exceptional circumstances caused the forfeit, the match may be deemed as postponed and be subject to the rules of Postponed Matches

If, for any reason, a team intends to forfeit a scheduled fixture match, the team is to provide two (2) clear working days written notice of the forfeit to the Administrator of GTFC FC. The match will be recorded as a 5-0 win in favour of the opposing team, and the points for a forfeit will be awarded to the opposing team.

A Team that fails to provide enough notification of a forfeit may lose points. Additionally, a team, which persistently forfeits matches, may, at the discretion of GTFC FC, be withdrawn from that competition.

#### *Abandoned matches*

Once a game commences and for any reason it is not completed it will be considered an Abandoned match. GTFC FC, at its absolute discretion, will direct that the match be replayed OR will determine a match result for the fixture.

If a team or their spectator/(s) are found guilty of behaviour that has led to a match being abandoned and or a referee makes a valid complaint to GTFC FC relating to a team or its spectators, the outcome may result in the offending team/s:

- (a) Receiving Nil match points the said match.
- (b) Receiving a 10-0 loss recorded for goal difference purposes as a minimum penalty. GTFC FC, at their absolute discretion, will assigning a score in excess of a 10-0 loss as it sees fit.
- (c) Where appropriate, GTFC FC, at their absolute discretion, will remove the team from the competition. No refunds will be considered.

#### *Withdrawal/Removal from Fixtures*

If any team in the competition withdraws or is removed from fixture competitions, then the following will apply:

- (a) if the team is withdrawn or removed before the competition has started - a bye in the competition will be substituted.
- (b) if the team is withdrawn or removed after the competition has started - the recorded results for that team will be deleted and a bye in the competition will be substituted.

#### *Postponed or Rain Affected Matches*

As a rule, no matches will be replayed due to wet weather cancelation. GTFC FC reserves the right to cancel any round, or part thereof, should they deem that player safety or field maintenance reasons dictate this course of action. Notifications will be placed on the GTFC FC website, [www.grangethistle.com](http://www.grangethistle.com) no later than 4.00pm on the day of scheduled games. Updates will also be posted to Facebook, so please make sure you are a member of the Grange Thistle Facebook page [www.facebook.com/GrangeThistle](http://www.facebook.com/GrangeThistle) . Should a team wish to replay a cancelled game then they can apply to GTFC FC to do so. GTFC FC will assess this application and if possible, will advise of available game times. GTFC FC may, at its discretion, extend the competition by multiple weeks, alternate days, or both, to facilitate cancelled games.

## PLAYERS

#### *Interchange of Players*

In all competitions, unlimited interchange will be permitted, with no more than ten (10) players permitted to be listed on the Match Sheet. Only players listed on the Match Sheet are permitted to take part in the match. A player who has been interchanged may return to the field for another player. All interchanges can occur at any time in play, but must not provide a team with an unfair advantage and must take place near the halfway line. The Referee will monitor interchanges to ensure neither team is disadvantaged during the interchange process.

### *Player Identity*

Player identity may be checked by GTFC FC at any time. Players who do not or cannot produce proof of identity will not be permitted to take part in the match. All challenges of identity/eligibility by opposition teams must be brought to the attention of the clubs 6 a Side administrator(s) as soon as possible. GTFC FC reserves the right to investigate the eligibility of any player at any stage.

### *Borrowing Players*

A borrowed player must be registered in the GTFC FC 6 a Side Competition. Teams can borrow a maximum of two (2) players. Players who are borrowed must be playing in the correct age group or have an exemption to play out of their age group by GTFC prior to playing. It is the responsibility of the team official to ensure that the borrowed player is eligible to play. Registration of Players

### *Ineligible Players*

A player whose has not signed the GTFC FC 6 a Side Match Sheet prior to the commencement of any match is considered ineligible and is not permitted to participate in that match.

Any player not registered as per GTFC FC 6 a Side Registration Procedures and Guidelines for the current season is considered ineligible and is not permitted to participate in any GTFC FC 6 a Side Competition.

Any player under suspension by GTFC FC is considered ineligible and is not permitted to participate in any fixture until that suspension is served. This includes automatic suspensions for yellow and red cards along with penalties determined by the GTFC FC Disciplinary Committee.

### *Penalties and Outcomes*

If it is established that a player competing in any GTFC FC 6 a Side competition fixture was ineligible to play, then the following will apply:

- the team found guilty shall forfeit any goals scored and points gained in that match and the points and match will be awarded to the opposing team;
- the game will be recorded as a 5-0 win in favour of the opposing team, unless the result was of a greater margin in favour of the opposing team;
- GTFC FC may impose an additional sanction, suspend, expel or take whatever disciplinary action it deems necessary against the offending team or player.

If it is established that both teams competing in any GTFC FC 6 a Side competition fixture fielded players who were ineligible to play, then the following will apply:

- the match will be deemed as a NO RESULT, whereby, no points will be awarded;
- GTFC FC may impose an additional sanction, suspend, expel or take whatever disciplinary action it deems necessary against the offending teams or players.

## **MATCH DAY**

*Match Sheets* On match day, both teams participating in a competition match are required to sign the GTFC FC Match Sheet prior to the commencement of any match.

The Match Sheet will list:

- list all match details (age group, date, Kickoff, fixture number, participating teams, and field);
- list all players taking part in the match with first name, surname with room for a signature;
- not list more than ten players for any fixture;



The Team Manager is responsible for ensuring the names of all players are listed and signed on the sheet.

Players participating in U6-U14 matches are not required to sign the Match Sheet.

#### *Procedures following a Match*

Following the match, the Referee should sign off the Match Sheet after verifying the accuracy of result, game details (red cards, cautions, goal scorers and times) and players listed. The referee will forward the original copies of the completed Match Sheets to GTFC FC.

#### *Results of Fixtures*

The results of fixtures will be communicated to GTFC FC by the referee.

#### *Match Balls*

GTFC FC shall provide footballs of correct size and in good order and condition for each match.

#### *Playing Strips*

All playing strips must be of the same predominant colour (except for socks). Where team colours are similar, the AWAY team will be required to wear an alternate strip or bibs, (these can be supplied by GTFC FC). Goalkeepers shall wear any colour provided it does not clash with either team or referee.

#### *Extreme Weather Conditions*

In extreme weather conditions, GTFC FC reserves the right to postpone, delay or abandon any fixture.

#### DISCIPLINARY

Players who receive a Red Card/Dismissal in a match shall receive an automatic non-appealable suspension of 1 week. Additional suspensions may be imposed after review by the GTFC FC Disciplinary Committee. Players suspended will be informed via email and before their next fixture. For clarity, any player receiving a Red Card will be automatically suspended for a minimum of one (1) match and cannot play another match in any age group until the suspension is served in the same competition they received the Red Card, whether they receive notification from GTFC or not.

GTFC FC reserves the right to change or amend these rules at its absolute discretion.

Any decision made by GTFC FC in relation to the 6 Aside competition are generally deemed final with appeals being considered on a case by case basis. If an appeal is assessed and dismissed there are no further reviewable / appeals available and the decision final.

GTFC FC at their absolute discretion can remove teams from the 6 aside competition. GTFC FC will be under no obligation to refund any monies to individual team members of the expelled team should this occur

## Laws of the Game

These Laws should be read in conjunction with the FIFA / The IFAB Laws of the game ('LOTG'). LOTG apply if not covered in the GTFC 6 a side LOTG.

Any clarification of the enclosed GTFC 6 Aside rule should be sought from the GTFC 6 a Side Referee Coordinator via email at [info@grangethistle.com](mailto:info@grangethistle.com).

### Key differences with FIFA LOTG:

- All restarts, (Except for Penalty Kicks) are INDIRECT
- A goal may not be directly scored from any restart including a Free Kick, a Kick Off, a Corner Kick, a Goal Kick, and a Throw-in. (If the ball goes directly into the opponents' goal from any re-start, it's not a Goal Kick.)
- Opponents must be at least 5m from the ball, in all directions, at any kicked restart (and 2m away from a Throw-In) unless the attacker elects to take the restart quickly.
- If an attacker is fouled inside the penalty area, it's a DIRECT Penalty Kick taken 5m away from the penalty area; All players must be behind the ball.
- There is no "Offside".
- O35s: Slide tackles are not allowed: tackling players must remain on their feet throughout the challenge.
- If a player is Sent Off, their team plays short until the opponents score a goal or for 2 mins whichever comes first. At this time a substitute may enter the field from the half-way at the Referees direction.
- Field player substitutions are on the fly and must take place near half-way; a Player must leave the field before a Substitute enters. Goalkeeper substitutions may only be made at a break in play and with the prior permission of the Referee.
- Match duration: U8-U12: 2 x 20mins; all other matches 2 x 25 mins.
- Ball size: Kindy: size 3; all other matches size 4.
- No coin toss: first named team chooses which goal to attack; opponents get the first kick-off; switch for second half.
- U8-U12: Once a goalkeeper has secured the ball with the hands, opponents must retreat 5m from the penalty area.
- No type of dropkick by the goalkeeper is allowed: freekick to opposing team taken from the nearest point on the goal area semi-circle.

### Law 01 – The Field of Play

- Dimensions: 30-35m long x 25-30m wide.
- Markings: 8-12 cm wide touchlines at the sides, goal lines at the ends, and a centre mark.
- Combined Goal Area and Penalty Area: An arc measuring 6m radius from centre of goal posts.
- The Goals: Height 1.8-2.0m, Width 3.0-5m.
- No corner arc will be marked. The corner area / arc will be defined as the intersection of goal and boundary line. When taking a corner kick the ball must be touching corner arc / line intersection.

### Law 02 – The Ball

- All Games: Size #4

#### Law 03 – The Players

- Maximum number of players on the field at any one time: 6, one of whom shall be the goalkeeper
- Minimum Number of Players to Start Match: 4, one of whom shall be a goalkeeper
- Minimum Number of Players to Finish Match: 3, one of whom shall be a goalkeeper
- Field player substitutions are unlimited and, on the fly, so do not require the Referee's consent but must be done near half-way and not advantage either team (Referees decision); a Player must leave the field before a Substitute enters. Goalkeeper substitutions may only be done at a break in play and with the prior permission of the Referee.
- For Mixed Senior Competitions, there must be at least two (2) female "field" players on the field at all time, not including the Goalkeeper.

#### Law 04 – The Players' Equipment

- In the event of a clash in shirt colours, the second named team is responsible to collect bibs from GTFC FC management and wear them.

#### Law 06 – The Assistant Referee

- There are no Assistant Referees.

#### Law 07 – The Duration of the Match

- U8-U12: Two equal periods of 20 minutes. There is no added time for injuries or delays in play, but time can be added for a penalty kick at the end of a half.
- U12 and older: Two equal periods of 25 minutes. There is no added time for injuries or delays in play, but time can be added for a penalty kick at the end of a half.
- Half-time: Maximum of 5 minutes. Under no circumstances are referees to vary the length of matches.

#### Law 08 – The Start and Restart of Play

- The team listed first on the official match sheet (home team) shall choose which goal to attack, the opposing (away) team shall kick off first. For all kick offs, all players must be in their own half; opponents of the team taking the kick must be at least 5m from the ball until it is in play.

#### Law 09 – Offside

- There is no offside.

#### Law 10 – Free Kicks

- All free kicks are indirect (note penalty kicks are different) a goal may not be directly scored.
- Opponents must be at least 5m away until the ball is in play.
- A free kick awarded to a team in or near their opponents' goal can be decided to be taken closer to their own goal line provided it is in a straight line, parallel to touch line, from where the free kick offence occurred.

#### Law 11 – The Penalty Kick

- Penalty Kicks are taken from a point 5m away from the penalty area.
- Opponents must stand behind and at least 5m from the ball.

#### Law 12 – The Throw-in

For under U8s to under 12s referees are to expect apply a relaxation to the throw in law by encouraging compliance via retakes (to the same team taking the throw) when it is clear they are

not making a reasonable attempt. If the player refuses continually not to try to be compliant in extreme cases the referee should award a throw-in to the opposing team.

The throw-in law will be varied for under 12 and younger grades as follows:

1. No foul throws will be called.
2. At the referee's discretion the throw in can be re-taken where the player has not thrown the ball in correctly.
3. At the very least we expect that players remain behind the line for throw-ins and that they make a decent attempt at correctly throwing in the ball; Referees are encouraged to coach / demonstrate / explain to players the standard they require for games (all age groups) and at a bare minimum meet the standard described above for all miniRoos grades (under 12 and below)

#### Law 13 – The Corner Kick

Opponents must be at least 5m away from the ball; the ball is in play when it is kicked and clearly moves.

An indirect free kick is also awarded when any of the following offences is committed:

- Playing in a dangerous manner (e.g. attempting to kick a ball held by goalkeeper). GTFC 6 a side Competition Rules 2021
- Over 35's only: sliding when tackling an opponent (part of body other than feet contacts the ground during the tackle).
- Impeding an opponent without contact being made.
- Charging the goalkeeper in the penalty area.
- Goalkeeper handles the ball after it has been kicked deliberately to them by a teammate.
- Goalkeeper handles the ball after a throw-in by a teammate.
- Goalkeeper within their own penalty area handles the ball for more than 6 seconds.

#### Rules of Expulsion

- The player Sent Off takes no further part in the match.
- Unless U12 or below, the player sent off must leave the vicinity of the field of play.
- The team of the player sent off plays short until the opponents score a goal or for 2 mins whichever comes first. The 2-minute punishment shall be controlled by the Referee and can continue into the second half if needed.
- The substitute for a player sent off can only enter the field with the prior permission of the Referee.